

CARA CAPERS

October 1988

The Newsletter of

The Candlewood Amateur Radio Association



Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the Candlewood Amateur Radio Association will be held on October 14, 1988 at 8:00 PM in the St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Route 25, Brookfield, CT.

The October Meeting is the Annual Election of Officers. Have a say in the management of your club. Attend the October meeting and Vote!

September Meeting

The September meeting featured a program on Disaster Services given by Mrs. Dru Hoge of the American Red Cross.

The business meeting was chaired by Bob, NAIN. A Treasurer's report was given by Rob, NAI0.

A formal Thank You was given to Ray, N1EDU for his efforts on the Flea Market. It was noted for the future the Flea Market project is too large

for one person to handle.

Field Day was considered a successful club effort. Club participation was very good even though public turn-out was not as expected. W1QI operated during the entire event except for a short shut-down due to an electrical storm.

The club's new QSL card for W1QI has arrived. Dan, W1QK passed around a sample for all to see. Craig, N1ABY was appointed Club QSL Manager, in charge of W1QI QSL cards.

Marty, K1HYL led a discussion on the PURA and the 147.120 repeater. In order for us to receive help from the PURA on improving the "1-2" machine, we must make our feelings and needs known to the PURA. Marty suggested that more frequent use of the repeater by club members would help the cause.

Volunteers are needed for the maintenance functions of the repeater.

September Meeting

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No specific technical skills are required, just the ability to show up and offer a helping hand when work needs to be done. If you'd like to help out contact Marty, K1HYL.

New business included the approval by the membership to forward donations to the Hawleyville Volunteer Fire Company, the Handi-Hams organization, and the WIAW renovation fund.

The floor was then opened for nominations for the new year. Nominated were:

President:	Hal	KB1US
Vice President:	Marty	K1HYL
Secretary:	Linne	K1OLP
Treasurer:	Rob	NA10

Nominations will be re-opened at the October meeting before elections. Bob commented that he would like to see some competition this year!

Attendance at the September meeting was good. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:50 PM.

VE Testing Sessions

The September VE Exams sponsored by CARA will have taken place by the time you get this issue of CAPERS. Jean, NM1P reports that the next available session is sponsored by FARA and will be held on October 8 at 12:00 Noon in Fairfield, CT. Contact Joe, NM1O or Jean, NM1P for more information.

VE's are needed for future CARA sponsored test sessions. If you are accredited and available please contact Jean or Joe to make plans to help out. Jean reminds all VE's to check the expiration date of their VE Badge as many are now expiring.

Coming Events

October 1-2 New England Division
Convention, Boxboro MA.

October 8 VE Exam Session in
Fairfield sponsored by
FARA.

October 14 Meeting Night

Editor's Note: I need help filling out this calendar. Please let me know about any coming events that might be of interest to the members.

Welcome to the October Issue of the *CARA Capers*, now under new management! Rob, NA10, has passed the task of publishing the *Capers* to me, KA1RLX aka Jon Radder.

I joined *CARA* just about 1 year ago as an Associate member. In January '88 I passed my Novice and became a voting member. I have since upgraded to Technician and am working on the code for General.

This is not my first attempt at publishing. I come to you direct from *The Harris Hill Press*, a paid circulation paper I published as a youngster in the suburbs of Buffalo, NY. The *HHP* was actually a little bit larger than the *CAPERS*, it enjoyed paid distribution through several retail outlets (at \$.10 per copy) of about 200 copies a month. We had several paid advertisers, including a national bank and most of the local merchants. However, even with my vast publishing experience (hi hi) I still need your help. Anything and everything you wish to contribute to the *CAPERS* is welcome.

In the unlikely event that I end up with too much material for a single issue, I promise that your work will be published in a future issue. So please, please contribute!

You may send your contribution to the *CAPERS* (you are going to contribute aren't you?) via packet radio to KA1RLX at the K1LTJ-4 PBBS (145.030 via KA2BCD-1). This is the preferred method as the *CAPERS* is composed on computer with a Desktop Publishing program and anything I don't have to type is guaranteed to be printed! If you don't have packet uploading capability you can use the US Snail. My address can be found in the credits at the end of this issue. Camera Ready copy is preferred, but if in doubt just send it anyway. For you packet fans I hope to have my PPM (Private Packet Mailbox) software finished and on-line before the next issue and contributions can then go direct to KA1RLX-1 (I hope!).

The official deadline for material submitted to the *CAPERS* is the Third Friday of every month.

Well, thanks for putting up with my rambling, it's time now to get on with the rest of the *CAPERS*. 73, Jon

CARA Roundtable Net

CARA's weekly roundtable net is held every Wednesday evening at 8 PM local time on the 147.12 repeater. Net control is Mark, N9FLY.

Mark reports that check-ins have been getting better but there is always room for more. Join your fellow members to keep in touch between club meetings on the CARA Roundtable.

Club QSL Service

All CARA members who are also ARRL members are eligible to use the club's Outgoing QSL bureau. Just bring your international QSL cards (sorry, no US addresses served) sorted by prefix, along with your latest QST mailing label, and a donation to help with the cost of postage to any club meeting and give them to Craig, N1ABY our official Club QSL Manager!

Club Call Available

The club call, W1QI is available for use by all members. W1QI has already earned several awards and has received many nice QSL's. If you would like to operate as W1QI from your home station, just let the station trustee, Dan, W1QK know the dates and times you would like to operate your station as W1QI.

All members are eligible to work as W1QI regardless of license class. You are restricted to the limitations of your personal license when operating as W1QI.

Member News

Tony, N1FIH has passed the code he needed for General and is planning to take the Advanced written test at the September testing session that will have been held by the time you read this. We all hope you passed Tony!

Lee, KA1EUE passed his Advanced over the summer. Lee says that he has to keep one step in front of his father (Quentin, KA1GAK) who has passed his General written and is getting ready for the code. Congratulations Lee, only one more to go!

Bob, KA2BCD's Digi in Brookfield is now a The-Net node and the new K1LTJ-2 The-Net node in Wilton is on-line and operational. Made possible by the combined efforts of Al, K1LTJ, Len, KV1P Lee, KA1EUE and Jon, KA1RLX.

Lee and Jon are also experimenting with the Multi-User DOS known as OS-9 on packet and are jointly developing the software for a Private Packet

Member News

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Mailbox system that they hope to have on-line soon. OS-9 is a very powerfull multi-user/multi-tasking DOS for the Tandy/Radio Shack Color Computer.

W1QK Contest DXpedition

The September ARRL VHF Contest was worked by the W1QK crew from high atop Mohawk Mountain over the weekend of September 10 & 11.

Dan/W1QK, Craig/N1ABY, Dan's Nephew Peter, and Jon/KA1RLX arrived in Brookfield bright and early Saturday morning to load 3 vehicles to overflowing with various Rigs, Antennas, Masts & Tenting gear. They then traveled to the site near Goshen CT arriving about 2.5 hours before contest time. Vehicles were unloaded and the set-up of the five transmitter station, four rotatable masts, three tents and one portable generator was begun.

By just about contest time they were on the air on 2 Meters, 6 Meters 220 MHz, 432 MHz and 1296 MHz. Propagation never seemed to happen, except for an aurora that began around tear-down time, however, there was plenty of action on 2 and 6 meters

and numerous bursts of activity in the higher frequencies. 432 MHz provide a suprising number of contacts as did 1296 MHz., 220 was active mostly on Saturday.

Some of the more interesting items noted by this rookie contester were rotatable push-up masts with the rotor mounted at the base and the now famous W1QK Contest Tape machine, which for those of you who haven't seen one, is a modified 8 Track player that automatically repeats up to four diferent messages. It's great for saving your voice when the bands aren't too active and is the technological forerunner to the digital voice keyer that Dan brought to Field Day.

The operators of W1QK during the contest were:

Dan	- W1QK	- 2 Meter Band Captain
Craig	- N1ABY	- 6 Meter Band Captain
Pete	- WA1WXU	- 220 Mhz Band Captain
Jon	- KA1RLX	- 432 MHz Band Captain
Ken	- WB1CUW	- Primary 220 Operator
Vin	- NA1S	- 2 Meter CW Operator
Hal	- KB1US	- 220/432/1296 Operator
Peter	-	- Primary 1296 Operator

W1QK Contest DXpedition

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The operation went very smoothly. There were no major technical problems. Equipment went up and came down very fast. There was plenty of gas for the generator and good food for the operators. The weather was great, except for a little bout with the wind that threatened to blow Hal, Jon and the 220/432/1296 tent off the mountain!

All things considered everyone had a good time and with a little luck the W1QK crew will share another high ranking finish when the results are published by the ARRL.

The un-official results for the W1QK effort are:

Band	# Grids	# QSO's	Best DX Grids
2M	31	254	FN10 FM16 FN5 EN91
6M	20	87	FN44 FN00
220MHz	12	29	FN44 FN00
432MHz	16	54	FN43 FM29 FN24 FN00
1296MHz	7	17	FN42 FN29

** 5 Watts on 1296 **

For Sale

Complete Packet Radio set-up.
Package includes:

- Commodore C-64 Computer
- Zenith 13" TV Set
- AEA PK-64A w/HF Modem

A real steal at only \$300.00! Please contact Don, N1E1D or Len, KV1P for more information.

Closing Comments

This month's CARA CAPERS was produced on a Tandy Color Computer 3 using Deskmate III word processing and the Home Publisher desktop publishing software.

I will continue to experiment with different formats in the coming issues. Please let me know what you think looks good and what you don't like.

Maybe, after I've tried a few different formats, we can have a survey in a future issue for you to vote on the look you like the best!

The CAPERS belongs to the club, and I would like to please as many members as possible, but I need your feedback to know how I'm doing.

73 'till next month, Jon / KA1RLX

Credits

Thank You's to:

The CARA CAPERS is published by:

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Rob, NA10	Advice & Guidance
Linne, KA1OLP	Labels
Craig, N1ABY	Printing
Al, K1LTJ	Use of PBBS
Marilyn, XYL	Putting up with late nights & the computer

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And you, for reading the CAPERS!

*** See you next month! ***

By packet: KA1RLX @ K1LTJ
(K1LTJ-4 via KA2BCD-1
on 145.030 MHz)

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